IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:

Gruber et al.

pl. No. 09/076,115

Filed: May 12, 1998

For:

Methods for Production and **Purification of Nucleic Acid**

Molecules

Confirmation No.:

Art Unit:

1656

Examiner:

Tung, J.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/B-C

Amendment And Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 3, 2001, (PTO Prosecution File Wrapper Paper No. 24), Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. This Amendment is provided in the following format:

- (A) A clean version of each replacement paragraph/section/claim along with clear instructions for entry;
- (B) Starting on a separate page, appropriate remarks and arguments. 37 C.F.R.
- § 1.111 and MPEP 714; and
- (C) Starting on a separate page, a marked-up version entitled: "Version with markings to show changes made."

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this